Nashville City Center 511 Union Street, Suite 2700 Nashville, Tennessee 37219-8966 (615) 244-6380

FAX: (615) 244-6804 www.wallerlaw.com 1901 SIXTH AVENUE NORTH, SUITE 1400 BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35203-2623 (205) 214-6380

809 SOUTH MAIN STREET COLUMBIA. TENNESSEE 38402-1035 (931) 388-6031

520 SOUTH GRAND AVENUE. SUITE 800 Los Angeles, California 90071 (213) 362-3680

Joseph A. Woodruff (615) 850-8485 joseph.woodruff@wallerlaw.com

September 14, 2006

#### <u>VIA FACSIMILE</u> AND FIRST-CLASS MAIL

Mr. Jeff S. Jordan
Supervising Attorney
Complaints Examinations &
Legal Administration
Federal Election Commission
999 E Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20463

Re:

MUR 5790

Dear Mr. Jordan:

Please accept this letter as the formal response on behalf of the Bob Corker for Senate Campaign Committee (the "Campaign") and Kim Kaegi, its Treasurer, to your letter dated August 15, 2006 and the Complaint filed with the Commission on August 8, 2006 by Robert D. Tuke, Chairman of the Tennessee Democratic Party.

Your letter was received by Ms. Kaegi and the Campaign on Monday, August 21, 2006. In your letter dated September 7, 2006 a ten-day extension of time was granted for the submission of a timely response. Therefore the Campaigns response is due to be submitted not later than Friday, September 15, 2006.

On September 5, 2006 the Campaign provided a preliminary response. This letter incorporates the matters submitted in that preliminary response and provides a more comprehensive response to all of the matters raised in the Complaint.



September 14, 2006 Page 2

The Complaint alleges that the Campaign "filed eight notices late and failed to file two notices" as required by 11 C.F.R. Sections 104.5(f) and 400.21(a). Attached to and filed with the Complaint was a document entitled "Late or Missed 48 Hour Notices For Bob Corker For Senate". That document listed 44 transactions, two loans made by the candidate to the Campaign and 42 contributions of \$1,000 or greater received by the Campaign. Our review reveals that at least three of the alleged "Late or Missed" notices set out in the document attached to the Complaint are without merit and should be dismissed.

I shall deal first with the alleged "late filed" 48 hour notices regarding receipt of contributions of \$1,000 or greater:

The Complaint does not identify the specific contributions it claims to have been reported late other than the conclusory allegation that these "late reported" contributions totaled "\$61,000". In this respect, the Complaint fails to comply with the requirements of 11 C.F.R. Sections 111.4(d)(3) and (4). The document attached to the complaint, however, does identify certain specific contributions received by the Campaign on July 19 and 20, 2006, allegedly not reported until July 24, 2006. Contrary to the allegation in the Complaint, these contributions were all reported by the Campaign in a seven-page report on FEC Form 6 filed by facsimile transmission on Friday, July 21, 2006 at 7:25 p.m. The pdf images of these reports as maintained on the Commission's website, clearly show "July 21, 2006" as the date the report was first faxed. See Tab 1.

With respect to the remaining 48 hour notices set out in the exhibit to the Complaint our investigation has discovered that Campaign staff erroneously excluded Sundays when calculating the period of time within which the report was due to be submitted. This was a training issue and has been addressed with the staff responsible for the preparation and submission of reports. The Campaign believes that it has taken adequate corrective action and that the likelihood of a recurrence of this error is remote.

I shall now deal with the alleged "failure to file" notices regarding loans by the candidate:

Loans by the candidate first exceeded the reporting level of two-times the threshold amount on July 18, 2006. The Campaign filed by facsimile transmission FEC Form 10 reporting all loans at 10:44 p.m. on July 19, 2006. The pdf image of this report as maintained on the Commission's website clearly shows "07/19/2006" as the date and "22:44" as the time of the fax. The Secretary of the Senate stamped the report as received on July 20, 2006 at 7:21 a.m. The only



September 14, 2006 Page 3

administrative oversight with respect to the filing of this FEC Form 10 is that the Treasurer did not place a check mark next to item 13 (a) of the form indicating that the filing was a substitute for FEC Form 6. See Tab 2.

On July 25, 2006, the candidate again made a loan to the Campaign triggering the 24 Hour reporting requirement. A report of the loan on FEC Form 10 was filed by facsimile transmission on July 26, 2006 at 9:38 p.m. On this occasion, the Treasurer did check item 13(a) of the form. See Tab 3.

These documents demonstrate that the Campaign timely reported the loans that in the aggregate exceeded the threshold amount. The only deficiency in these filings is the failure to check item 13(a) in the report filed on July 19. The Campaign reported the transactions timely and completely.

In determining what course of action to take in this matter, the Commission should also consider two additional points. First, the alleged violations complained of concern reports submitted during the recently concluded Republican primary election; an election in which the complaining party had no candidates on the ballot and did not participate. Irrespective of the merits of the Complaint, the alleged violations did not and could not prejudice the Tennessee Democratic Party or any of its candidates. Second, the campaign committees for the two candidates who were on the Republican primary ballot received timely notice of the Campaign's expenditures as well as the candidate's personal loans. Representatives of those two campaign committees have furnished letters stating that their campaign committees received timely and accurate financial reports from the Corker for Senate Campaign Committee. See Tab 4. In summary, the party filing the Complaint was not prejudiced by the timing of any financial disclosure and the Campaign's primary opponents have no complaints.

Please consider the foregoing response in considering what action, if any, is merited in this matter. Should you need any additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Woodruff

Mondus



September 14, 2006 Page 4

JAW/

cc: Ms. Kim Kaegi Mr. Ben Mitchell

07/21/2006 FRI 17:27 FAX

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SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

# 48 HOURS NOTICE OF JUL 24 AH 8: 09 CONTRIBUTIONS/LOANS RECEIVED (See Reverue Side for Instructions)

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518 Georgis Ave, 2nd Floor							
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Bob Corker							
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	·		FEC FORM 6

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SECRETARY AT THE SENATE

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## FEC FORM 6 - 48 HOUR NOTICE OF CONTRIBUTIONS / LOANS

Any information reported herein may not be copied for sale or use by any parson for the purposes of soliciting caracteristics or for any other construction purpose superior that the name and address of any political committee way be used to solicit contributions from that committee.

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SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

### 48 HOURS NOTICE OF CONTRIBUTIONS/LOANS RECEIVED (See Reverse Side for Instructions)

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(Revised 1/2001)

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### 48 HOURS NOTICE OF CONTRIBUTIONS/LOANS RECEIVED (See Reverse Side for Instructions)

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## Federal Election Commission ENVELOPE REPLACEMENT PAGE FOR INCOMING DOCUMENTS

FOR INCOMING DOCUMENTS  The FEC added this page to the end of this filing to indicate how it was received.	
Hand Delivered	Date of Receipt
USPS First Class Mail	Postmarked
USPS Registered/Certified	Postmarked (R/C)
USPS Priority Mail Delivery Confirm	Postmarked nation ™ Label
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The document preceding this page was received by FAX at the FAX machine has printed at the bottom of each page the date a phone number of the transmitting machine and the sequential p	nd time of receipt, the
N/A PREPARER (5/2004)	N/A DATE PREPARED



August 24, 2006

Jennifer Coxe Van Hilleary for Senate Campaign Manager 62 Music Square West Nashville, TN 37203

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to certify that I, as a representative of the <u>Van Hilleary</u> for U.S. Senate campaign, received every disclosure form from the Bob Corker for U.S. Senate campaign on time and fully filled out as required by the regulations of the Federal Election Commission throughout the entire course of the campaign.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Coxe



September 4, 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

The Ed Bryant for U.S. Senate campaign received Bob Corker's FEC Form 10 notification within the necessary time period. We received the first Form 10 on 7/19 at 10:49pm and the second Form 10 on 7/26 at 9:59pm.

Sincerely,

Michael Luethy Campaign Manager Ed Bryant for U.S. Senate